

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HELSIN 01165 291526Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 OMB-01 /069 W

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P R 291440Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8700

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

UNCLAS HELSINKI 1165

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PINT, FI

SUBJECT: SORSA GOVERNMENT ASKED TO CONTINUE FOR TIME BEING

REF: HELSINKI 1134

1. ACCORDING TO PRELIMINARY NEW ACCOUNTS, MINISTERS REPRESENTING FOUR PARTIES IN SORSA COALITION GOVERNMENT THURSDAY AM CALLED ON PRESIDENT KEKKONEN AND SUGGESTED HE DISSOLVE PARLIAMENT AND CALL ELECTIONS. THAY ALSO OFFERED TO RESIGN AS OF DATE KEKKONEN DISSOLVES PARLIAMENT.

2. WITHOUT SPECIFYING WHEN, KEKKONEN REPORTEDLY SAID THAT HE WOULD ACT ON REQUEST, BUT IN TWO STAGES. HE WOULD FIRST ANNOUNCE WHN ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD, AND THEN AT AN APPROPRIATE POINT ACTUALLY DISSOLVE PARLIAMENT. ACCORDING TO FINNISH RADIO, KEKKONEN SAID TIMING OF CSCE SUMMIT WOULD BE RELEVANT TO ELECTION DATE. ALTHOUGH THEORETICAL POSSIBILITY REMAINS THAT KEKKONEN COULD STILL ANNOUNCE ELECTIONS DURING NEXT TWO DAY, PUTTING THEM INTO AUGUST, THIS IS CONSIDERED MOST UNLIKELY, AND SEPTEMBER STILL FAVORED UNCLASSIFIED

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DATE FOR ELECTIONS. KEKKONEN REPORTEDLY INSISTED

ON PARLIAMENT COMPLETING PENDING LEGISLATION, INCLUDING MUNICIPAL LAND PURCHASE LAWS -- WHICH HIGH ON SOCIAL DEMOCRATS LIST BUT NOT PART OF RECENTLY REACHED AGREEMENT BETWEEN KEKKONEN AND GOVERNMENT. THIS IS CONSIDERED TO MEAN THAT PARLIAMENT WOULD HAVE TO SIT AT LEAST UNTIL JUNE 10.

3. KEKKONEN ALSO REPORTED TO HAVE TOLD SORSA GOVERNMENT MINISTERS TO CONTINUE IN OFFICE FOR TIME BEING. IN RESPONSE TO CENTER PARTY REPRESENTATIVE'S (FINANCE MINISTER VIROLAINEN) REQUEST THAT CENTER PARTY MINISTERS BE PERMITTED RESIGN FORTHWITH, KEKKONEN IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID HE COULD NOT ACCEPT REQUEST AND HOPE CENTER PARTY MINISTERS WOULD NOT GO ON STRIKE AGAINST HIM. CENTER PARTY MINISTERS THUS WILL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO STICK IT OUT IN GOVERNMENT.

4. FURTHER ANALYSIS OF SITUATION TO FOLLOW.

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Message Attributes

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